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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/835,465	04/17/2001	Thomas Senn	031211-059	5999

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EXAMINER

HARRISON, CHANTE E

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2672

DATE MAILED: 03/25/2003

9

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

8

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/835,465

Applicant(s)

SENN ET AL.

Examiner

Chante Harrison

Art Unit

2672

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 April 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-44 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-44 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☒ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 4.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-38, 40-41 and 43-44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Lindsay Holt et al, U.S. Patent 5,528,261, 6/1996.

As per independent claim 1, Holt discloses a process for producing an electronic color information file for color communication, wherein the file includes at least one data set describing the color impression of at least one color sample comprising making available one data set (Fig. 6; col. 4-5, ll. 66-2), storing the data set in a preselected data format in the color information file (col. 5, ll. 21-25), all the information data associated with the color sample (col. 5, ll. 21-25) and one of identifying, characterizing, and supplementing the one color sample (col. 5, ll. 24-27) are stored as information containing data objects (col. 5, ll. 40-45) in an open, expandable, hierarchically organized object structure in the color file (abstract).

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As per dependent claims 2 and 22, Holt discloses each data object is labeled with a characterizing type description selected from a group of predefined type descriptions (col. 6, ll. 33-38), the type description provides details on the structure and content of the data object (col. 6, ll. 33-48) and the data type description of the data object is stored in the color information file in defined relation to the information data of the data object (col. 6, ll. 33-50).

As per dependent claims 3 and 23, Holt discloses one data object includes one hierarchically subordinate data object (col. 6, ll. 33-45), each subordinate data object is labeled with a characterizing type description (col. 9, ll. 50-55) selected from a predefined group of type descriptions (col. 6, ll. 33-38), the type description provides details on the structure and content of the data object (col. 6, ll. 33-48) and the data type description of the data object is stored in the color information file in defined relation to the information data of the data object (col. 6, ll. 33-50).

As per dependent claims 4 and 24, Holt discloses a name is associated with one of the data object of the uppermost level of the hierarchy (col. 6, ll. 33-36) and the data objects respectively subordinate to a data object (col. 7, ll. 45-55), which name defines the respective data objects and is stored in the color information file in defined relation to the respective data objects (col. 6, ll. 33-55).

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As per dependent claims 5 and 25, Holt discloses an explanatory description is associated with one of the data object of the uppermost level of the hierarchy (col. 6, ll. 33-36; col. 9, ll. 50-60) and the data objects respectively subordinate to a data object (col. 7, ll. 45-55), which explanatory description defines the respective data objects and is stored in the color information file in defined relation to the respective data objects (col. 6, ll. 33-55; col. 9, ll. 50-60).

As per dependent claims 6, 26 and 41, Holt discloses at least one data object includes a subordinate data object, which represents a connection pointer to another data object within or outside the color information file (col. 6, ll. 1-15).

As per dependent claims 7 and 27, Holt discloses all data objects are stored in at least one text format in the color information file (col. 5, ll. 65-67; col. 6, ll. 15-20).

As per dependent claims 8 and 28, Holt discloses at least one data object includes a binary data object as information data, wherein this binary data object is stored in the color information file as symbols in MIME-compatible format (i.e. text representation) (col. 29-30).

As per dependent claims 9 and 29, Holt discloses the hierarchically organized object structure of the data objects is built on the basis of a page description (abstract).

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As per dependent claims 10 and 30, Holt discloses the step of storing the information data which are associated with one color sample and one of identify, characterize, and complement the color sample is carried out by arbitrarily selecting from a predefined group of data object types (col. 5, ll. 15-18; col. 6, ll. 20-40).

As per dependent claim 11, Holt discloses the predefined group of data object types can be expanded with additional data object types (col. 14, ll. 40-65).

As per dependent claims 12 and 31, Holt discloses the predefined group of data object types includes at least data objects for spectral and calorimetric data (col. 11, ll. 40-60; Fig. 7).

As per dependent claims 13 and 32, Holt discloses the predefined group of data object types additionally includes data objects for further information data relevant for the visual impression of the color (col. 10, ll. 30-65).

As per dependent claims 14 and 33, Holt discloses the predefined group of data object types additionally includes data objects for ICC profiles (col. 10, ll. 30-65), measurement conditions (col. 14, ll. 25-40), light source data (col. 11, ll. 40-60) and device profiles (col. 11, ll. 65-67).

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As per dependent claims 15 and 34, the predefined group of data object types additionally includes data objects for image data (col. 2, ll. 15-30).

As per dependent claim 16, Holt discloses the predefined group of data object types additionally includes at least one of data objects for image data (col. 12, ll. 32-35) and substrate describing data, wherein the image data preferably represent structure information such as surface condition (i.e. surface brightness as determined by spectral energy distribution) or graininess of the at least one color sample to be communicated (Fig. 7; col. 11, ll. 40-61)

As per dependent claim 17, Holt discloses the predefined group of data object types additionally includes data objects for supplementary data (col. 9, ll. 50-60) representable in text format (col. 7, ll. 45-55).

As per dependent claims 18 and 36, Holt discloses any combination of emission, remission and transmission spectra, and calorimetric data (i.e. dominant wavelength used to determine surface luminance) are stored in the color information file (col. 11, ll. 40-61; Fig. 7).

As per dependent claims 19 and 37, Holt discloses emission spectra and remission spectra of the one color sample are stored in the color information file (col. 11, ll. 40-60), such that the illumination light source can be taken into consideration by way of a color

model for the visual representation of the one color sample on a screen (Fig. 4; col. 5, ll. 55-65).

As per dependent claims 20 and 38, Holt discloses an input profile and several output profiles assigned to a color sample and stored in the color information file (Fig. 1), and the input profile is used to recalculate a color sample from a device dependent color space into a device independent color space (col. 12-13, ll. 64-6), and the output profiles are used to recalculate the color location of the color sample from the device independent color space into a selected device dependent color space (col. 11, ll. 5-15) and to display the color location therein (Fig. 8).

As per independent claim 21, Holt discloses a process for communicating information relevant for visual color impression of a color sample comprising storing the information represented by the one of measured data and manually produced value data at a transmitter end in a color information file (col. 5, ll. 40-45), and transferring the color information file to a receiver by way of a communication medium (col. 4-5, ll. 64-2; Fig. 1), and displayed in visual form at the receiver end (col. 1, ll. 20-25), all the information data associated with the color sample (col. 5, ll. 20-25) and at least one of identifying, characterizing and supplementing the color sample (col. 5, ll. 24-27), being stored as information containing data objects (col. 5, ll. 40-45) in an open, expandable, hierarchically organized object structure in the color file (abstract).

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As per dependent claim 35, Holt discloses the predefined group of data object types additionally includes at least one of data objects for image data and substrate describing data, whereby the image data preferably represent structure information of the at least one color sample to be communicated (col. 12, ll. 32-35).

As per dependent claims 40 and 43, Holt discloses the predefined group of data object types includes device dependent color data (col. 8, ll. 1-5).

As per dependent claim 44, Holt discloses structure information includes at least one of surface condition or graininess (col. 11, ll. 40-61; Fig. 7).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 39 and 42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Holt et al. as applied to claims 1 and 21 above, and further in view of Maribeth Back et al., U.S. Patent 6,515,690, 2/2003.

As per dependent claims 39 and 42, Holt fails to disclose the hierarchically organized object structure of the data objects is built on the basis of Extensible Markup Language, which Back discloses (col. 6, ll. 38-47; col. 7, ll. 40-45).

Holt teaches a computer system communicating with peripheral devices in an object-oriented architecture, which receives input color data, accesses hierarchical files and transmits corresponding output data. Back teaches an object oriented system using XML (Extensible Markup Language) files to output desired display attributes stored in the files that correspond to system input. It would have been obvious to one of skill in the art to include Back's object structure built on the basis of Extensible Markup Language with the disclosure of Holt to improve indexing of a variety of stored data.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communication from the examiner should be directed to Chante Harrison whose telephone number is (703) 305-3937.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Razavi, can be reached at (703) 305-4713.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

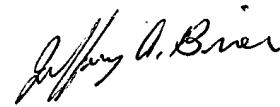
or faxed to:

(703) 872-9314 (for Technology Center 2600 only)

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Technology Center 2600 Customer Service Office whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.

Ch
March 17, 2003


JEFFERY BRIER
PRIMARY EXAMINER